with the diverse stakeholders are under way to develop a framework for comprehensive legislation to protect the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Death and disability due to Cardio-Vascular diseases

561. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study by the Earth Institute of Columbia University conducted with international collaboration in India, South Africa, Brazil and Russia warns of rising rates of death and disability due to cardio-vascular diseases which may seriously affect productivity and impose economic burdens on these countries;

(b) whether according to the study India will be the worst hit due to early deaths and disability with productive life year loss due to deaths in 35 to 64 years; and

(c) if so, whether Government have studied this report and the steps being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) According to All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, a recently released study by the Earth Institute of Columbia University conducted with international collaborators in India, South Africa, Brazil and Russia warns that rising rate of deaths and disability due to cardio-vascular disease will seriously affect productivity and impose economic burden on these countries. India will be the worst hit due to early deaths and disability with productive life-year losses due to deaths in 35—64 year age group rising from 9.2 million in 2000 to 17.9 million in 2030. This increase suggested to be linked to change in life style such as decreased physical activity, changing food habits, increase in fat and sugar consumption, low intake of fiber and micro nutrients (folic acid, antioxidants) etc. The Government is spreading health messages through electronic media to increase public health awareness about heart diseases and healthy living practices.